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where water was still standing, and in these the lower leaves presented the usual dissected appearance.

I also found *Flærkia proserpinacoides*, Willd., growing in moist soil, at some distance from any water. Apparently the ground was kept moist by the thick trees.

During the autumn of '73 I frequently found *Viola Canadensis*, L., and *V. rostrata*, Pursh., with apetalous flowers and large full capsules, and occasionally *V. Muhlenbergii*, Torr., presented this feature. I do not refer to subterranean apetalous flowers, but those growing upon the stems. Many species have the subterranean capsules. Since I came to Connecticut I have found *Viola sagittata*, Ait., and *V. lanceolata*, L., with the character described above, that is with apetalous flowers, both subterranean and on scapes.

Found one *Trillium grandiflorum*, Salisb., with four leaves, four petals, four sepals, four stamens, two stigmas, ovary four angled and one edge each of two opposite petals curled as if they had partially absorbed the two missing stamens. Once I found a *Trillium erythrocarpum*, var. *Clevelandicum*, Wood., with six sepals and fifteen petals all green.

Oct., 25, 1873, I found a *Salix* in fruit, which was well ripened, and some of it falling from the scales. The leaves were mostly fallen, and what remained were so blackened by the frost that the species could not be determined with certainty. They resembled those of *S. lucida*. The question in regard to it was, is this the second fruiting of the season?

In the spring of '73 I found a field of more than two acres covered with the flower of *Valeriana sylvatica*, L. The next spring scarce a blossom could be found in this field, and this was the only field then seen that produced them. A few were afterwards found in another field. What caused their disappearance? Near by was an abundance of *Cypripedium spectabile*, Swartz., and the finest specimens I ever saw. The next year not a flower could be found in the locality, and only one plant, a half starved specimen with two leaves. Why this change? I think that if a reason could be found for these disappearances, it would throw light on the question of veracity which has arisen in regard to the statements of some writers, who having said they had found certain flowers in a certain location, have been judged to be mistaken, because others could never find those flowers in the same localities.

The *Arctostaphylos Uva-ursi*, Spreng., sometimes occurs in Michigan with leaves ciliate on the margin, petioles pubescent, stamens pubescent, and young branches quite so.—N. COLEMAN, Bloomfield, Conn.

FOREIGN PLANTS IN NORTHERN CALIFORNIA.—At the time of the publication of the Bot. Cal., Vol. I, last spring, *Verbascum Thapsus*, L., was "yet unknown on the Pacific coast." But I find it well established and apparently spreading too rapidly at several localities in the interior of the extreme northern portion of the State.

In an old field near Yreka, Siskiyou county, there grows a great quantity of another foreigner, and one which has not often been recorded as established, or even adventive in North America, namely, *Lepidium Draba*, L., of Europe. *Datura Tatula*, L., is here first recorded from California. It occurs plentifully by the roadside, at Callahan's Ranch, Siskiyou county.—EDWARD L. GREENE, Yreka, Cal.

ROOT-LEAVES OF ALISMA PLANTAGO, VAR. AMERICANUM, Gray.—While on a botanizing tour near New Harmony, Ind., last May, I came to a small pond in which the water was gradually drying up. On approaching the border I found what was then a plant from 2-4 inches high, which was just beginning to bud, and in some plants flowers were partially opened. A more thorough examination proved that these plants were not found within 4-5 ft. of the water's edge, but from this on to several feet. Under the water, the muddy surface was covered by tufts of a grassy looking plant, the thin membranous leaves (*phyllodia* ?) of which were linear-lanceolate, from 2.5 inches long, from $\frac{1}{8}$ - $\frac{1}{4}$ inch broad. Turning my attention now to the plants first found I discov-

ered they had sprung from the same tufts of roots as those last observed, and then found them in all stages of transition; the root-leaves drying up and disappearing as the mud dried up, leaving only the plants first noticed; which were subsequently found to be our common *Water Plantain*.—J. SCHNECK, *Mt. Carmel, Ill.*

RECENT PUBLICATIONS.—*American Journal of Science and Arts*, January. An address delivered at South Kensington by Dr. J. H. Gilbert "On some Points in Connection with Vegetation" is begun in this number. Dr. Gilbert confines his attention almost exclusively to the "Sources of the nitrogen of vegetation in general, and of agricultural production in particular." Dr. Gray gives a short review of a paper read upon the "Geographical Statistics of European Flora," which is so condensed and interesting, that, but for the lack of space, we would reprint it.

The American Naturalist, February. The botanical papers of this number are numerous and full of interest. Owing to the exceedingly crowded condition of our pages, we are compelled to simply mention articles that are worthy a more lengthy notice. The botanical articles are a very readable paper upon "The Distribution of Plants in New Hampshire and Vermont," by William F. Flint; Fertilization of *Gentiana Andrewsii*," by Dr. Gray; "Origin of Varieties; Two Illustrations," by J. J. H. Gregory, and "*Ipomœa setosa*," by Mary Treat.

Field and Forest, January. Mr. Rudolph Oldberg gives a list of the Mosses and Hepaticæ of the District of Columbia.

Proceedings of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia, Parts I. and II., 1876. Quite a number of botanical papers are contained in these parts, and that indefatigable observer, Mr. Meehan, is largely represented.

Report of the Botanist: [Charles H. Peck.] *Made to the Regents of the University of the State of New York*, from the twenty-eighth annual report. This is a pamphlet of about 60 pages, containing two handsome plates of new Fungi. Mr. Peck is making annually very large contributions to our species of Fungi, and this report contains no less than 70 species new to science and 150 new to the herbarium. Lists are given of the plants mounted and contributed, together with the names of the donors. If other states would only imitate New York in this respect, herbaria would be secured them that would soon make State Floras something more tangible than at present, and would at the same time greatly advance the interests of botanical science at large.

Forest Culture and Eucalyptus Trees, by Eliwood Cooper. This is a little book of over 200 pages, being mainly a printed copy of a lecture on "Forest Culture and Australian Gum-trees" by Mr. Eliwood Cooper, President of Santa Barbara College, California, and descriptions of Eucalyptus trees from the pamphlets of Baron Ferd. Von Mueller.

NOTE.—*Calochortus Kennedyi*, n. sp., of the February number of the GAZETTE, has been, as I have since learned, distributed in sets of California plants, collected in May, 1876, by Dr. Palmer, under the unpublished name of *C. Wallucci*.—*Gilia Kennedyi*, n. sp., of the same date, is *Gilia Parryæ*, Gray, in Contr. Proc. Am. Acad., issued Dec., 27, 1876. The publication did not reach me until the end of January, when it was too late to withdraw my name.—T. C. P.

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